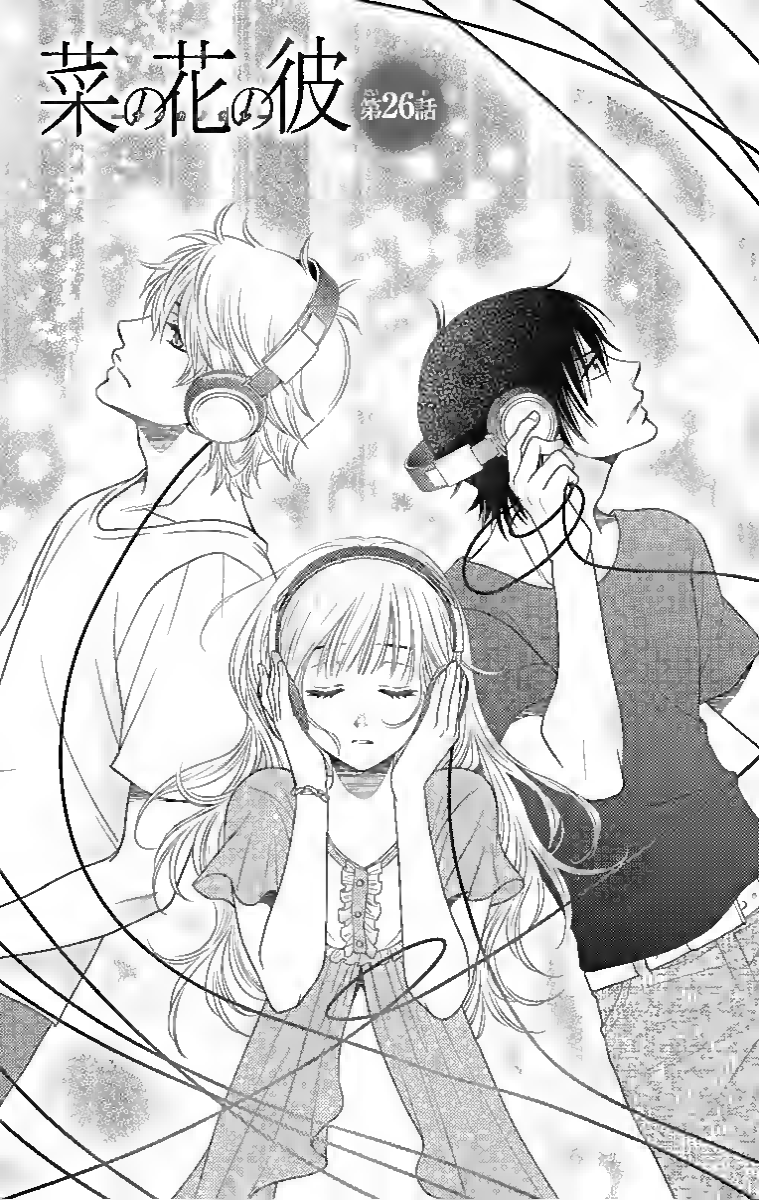
菜の花の彼

第26話



Translator:
Hoshiko

Typesetting:
Yona

Quality Checker:
Hoshiko

Proofreader:
Kagekaoya

Redrawer:
Chxrryblossoms

THAT'S WHY YOU'VE NEVER CAUGHT ON.
BUT I'VE ALWAYS
Tell her.

Tell her that you like her.
I should be okay telling her that...
Squeeze.
YEAH.
I WAS THE ONE WHO SAVED YOU.
TAKATO-KUN...?

That's why it's okay.

Nanoka needs to know it.

I can't doubt anymore.

OPEN
LI-
I NEED TO CHECK YOUR TEMPERATURE BEFORE YOU GO TO SLEEP,
IT'LL TAKE JUST 20 SECO-NDS.
BUMP
OUCH…
ARE YOU HURT?
AH, NO…

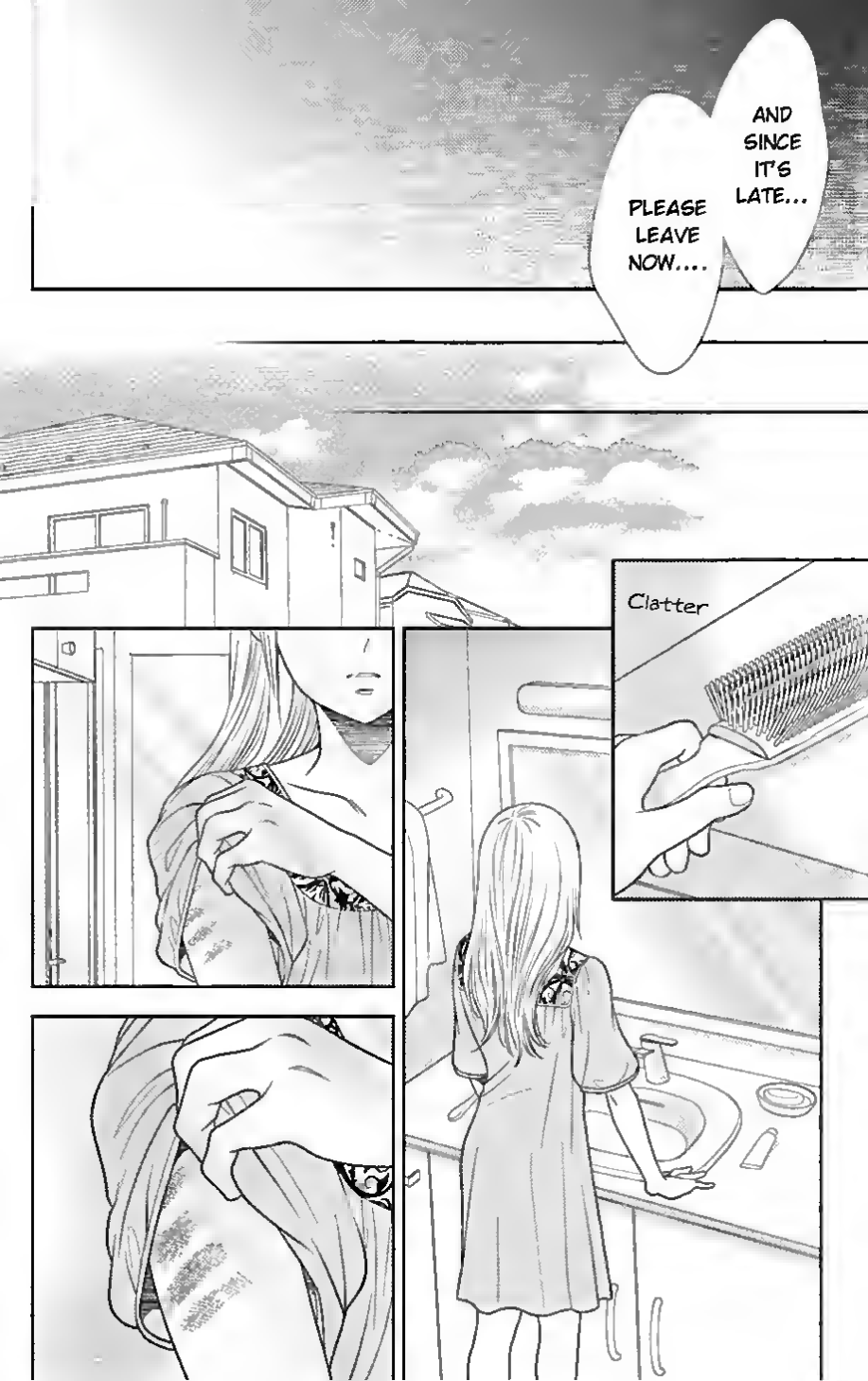
HURT?
THERE'S NO WAY THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED ....
WOOSH
LET ME CHECK.
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME.
I PRO-TECTED HER.
THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD HAVE ANY—
OH NO——...
WHAT A HUGE BRUISE.

HOW SO
KYAA!?
IT'S A LIE...

DON'T OPEN IT SO SUDDENLY.
GO BACK TO RESTING.
THAT WAS ....
Close
AH ....
COUGH
FROM WHEN I GRABBED HER..?
UM.

TAKATO-
KUN...?

EH...?
AH...
UM.
YOU WERE SAYING SOMETHING EARLIER, RIGHT?
NOTHING...!


AND SINCE IT'S LATE...
PLEASE LEAVE NOW....
Clatter

Somehow, it didn't feel real.
It feels like yesterday was just a nightmare.
THERE REALLY IS A BRUISE.
I was saved.
He grabbed me too tightly and...
Takato-kun's voice...
Sounded more serious from on top of my head.

I don't remember much.
The words began to melt together.
AND WHAT IS IT THAT HE WAS SAYING RIGHT THEN?
BUT IT WAS REAL.
I REME MBER
ONLY ONE THING
CLEARLY
YEAH,
I GUESS I'M FEELING DOWN AFTER ALL.
IT'S FRUSTRATING, EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY.

After opening the curtain,
He saw my arm.
He had a surprised expression.
And after that...

He looked hurt.

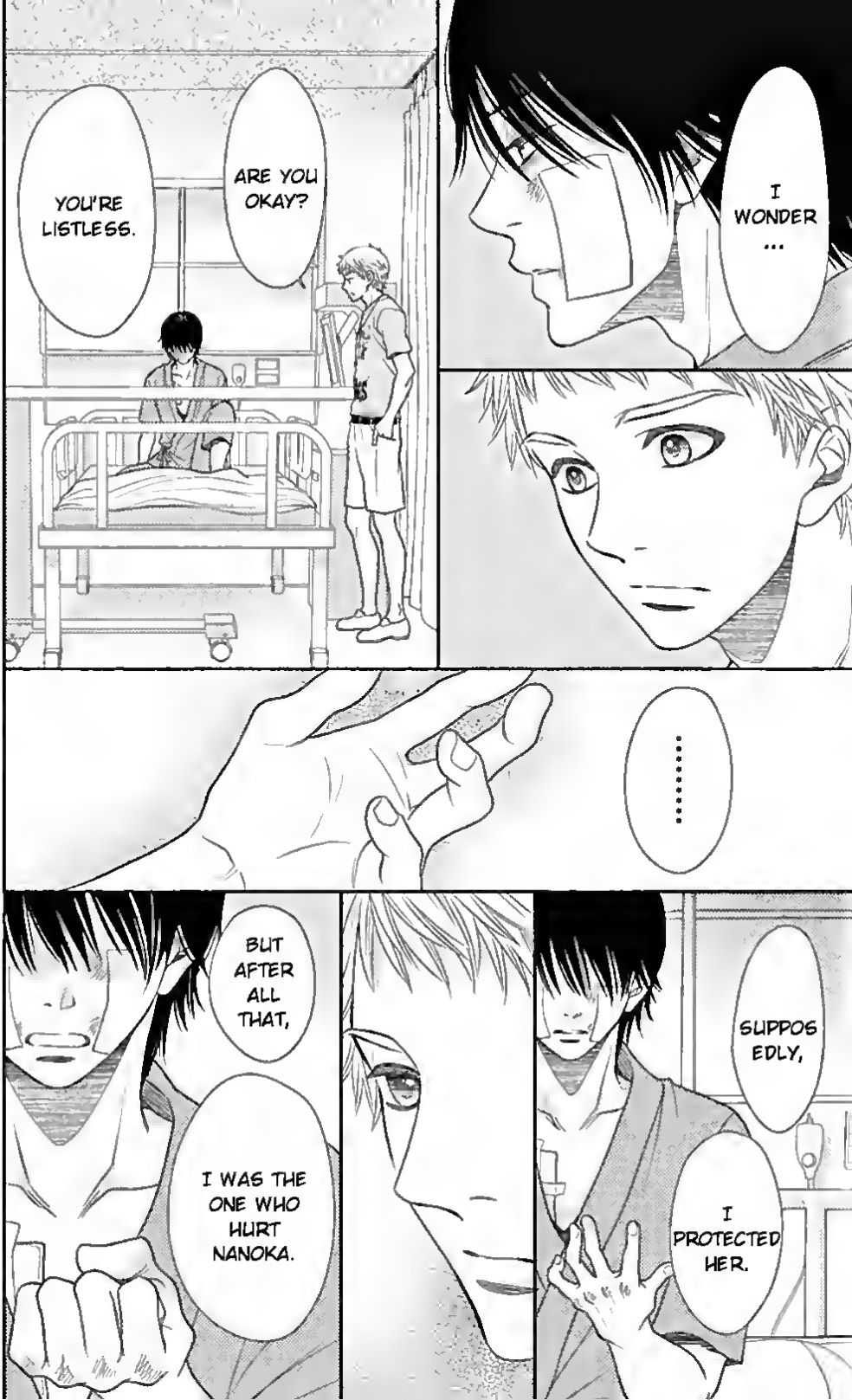
It looked like he wanted to cry.

That's the first time I've seen Takato-kun like that.

That's the only thing that's remained in me.
The only thing that won't leave.
I SERIOUSLY THOUGHT YOU HAD BEEN SHOT.
Uesugi Takato 様

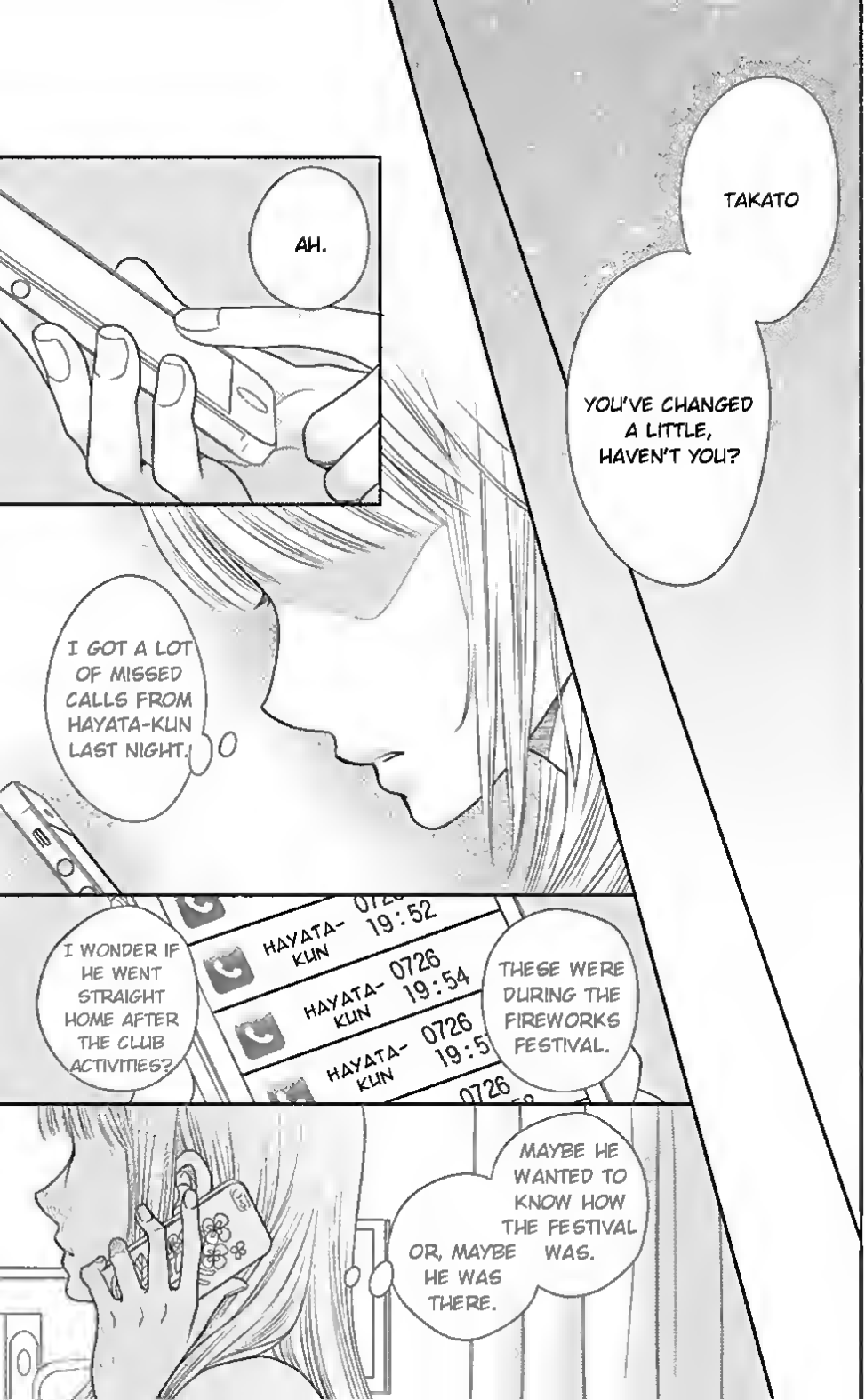
YOU RAN OUT FROM WORK SO QUICKLY.
AND THE NEXT DAY, YOU SAID YOU WERE IN THE HOSPITAL.
WHEN I GOT HERE, YOU WERE COVERED IN INJURIES.
YOU'RE EXAGGERATING. I'M LEAVING THE HOSPITAL THIS AFTERNOON.
IS THAT SO?
SORRY ABOUT LEAVING YOU ALONE AT WORK.
REALLY... WE LOST A LOT OF CUSTOMERS ONCE YOU LEFT.
WELL THEN.
HOW DID IT GO?
WHAT?

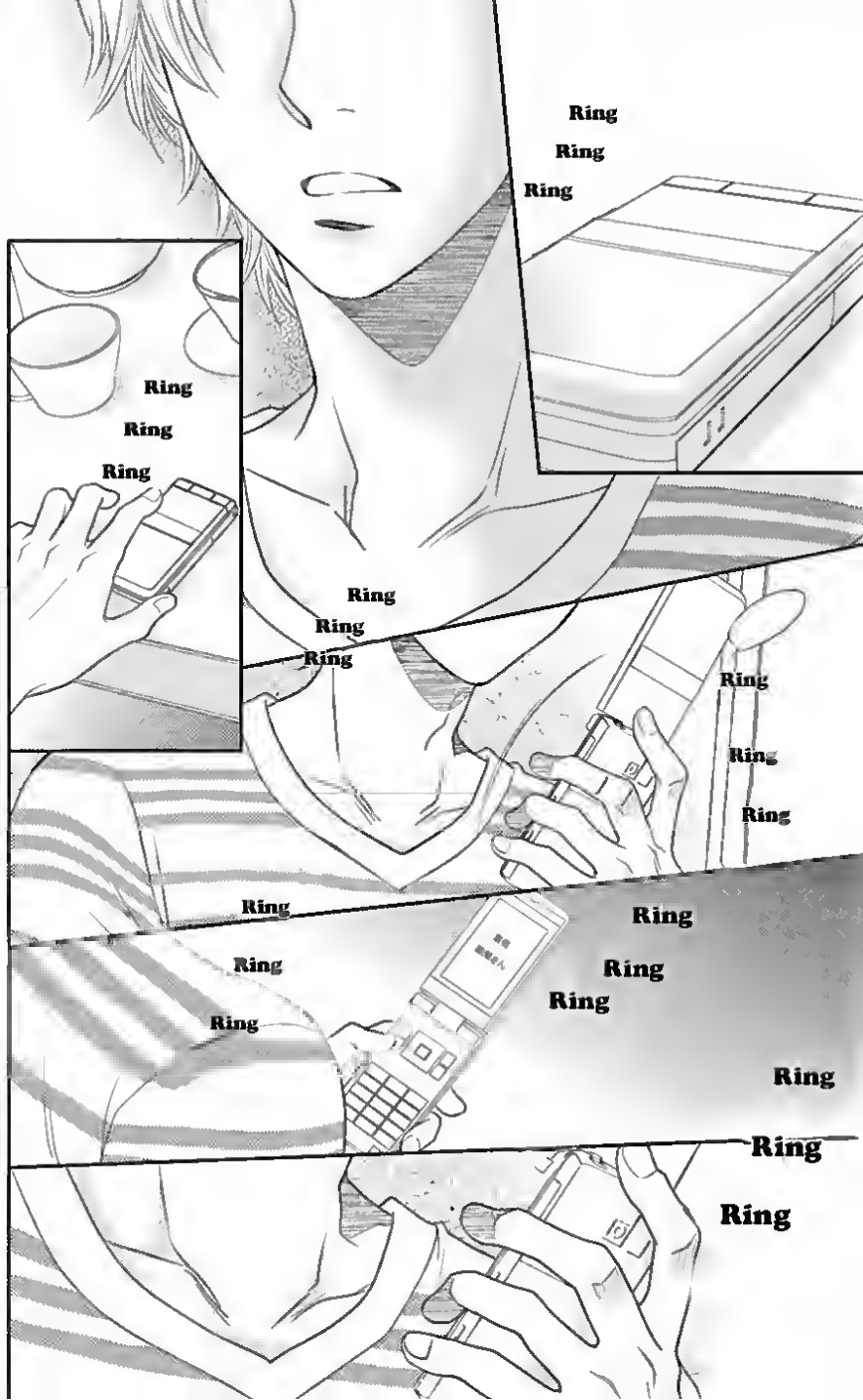
YOU FOUND HER AND SAVED HER, RIGHT?
NANOKA-CHAN IS A GIRL, AFTER ALL.
NANOKA ISN'T THAT KIND OF GIRL.
YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT.
DID SHE SAY SOMETHING LIKE "Takato-kun, you're really great, for taking care of me ♡"
WELL, THAT'S TRUE.
BUT YOU WISH SHE WOULD BE, DON'T YOU?
MAYBE,
YOU'RE SECRETLY WAITING FOR IT TOO.


YOU'RE LISTLESS.
ARE YOU OKAY?
I WONDER ...
.....
BUT AFTER ALL THAT,
I WAS THE ONE WHO HURT NANOKA.
SUPPOSEDLY,
I PROTECTED HER.

THAT WAS...
THE VERY FIRST TIME,
THAT'S SHE'S DIRECTLY LOOKED AT ME.
The moments before.
My words.
My actions.
My attempts to take her by force.

Nanoka might...
carry that pain forever.
I'M TERRIFIED OF MYSELF.
THEN SUDDENLY,
UNAVOIDABLY,
MY CHEST HURTS.


TAKATO
YOU'VE CHANGED A LITTLE, HAVEN'T YOU?
AH.
I GOT A LOT OF MISSED CALLS FROM HAYATA-KUN LAST NIGHT.
HAYATA-KUN 19:52
HAYATA-KUN 0726 19:54
HAYATA-KUN 0726 19:5
I WONDER IF HE WENT STRAIGHT HOME AFTER THE CLUB ACTIVITIES?
THESE WERE DURING THE FIREWORKS FESTIVAL.
MAYBE HE WANTED TO KNOW HOW THE FESTIVAL WAS.
OR, MAYBE HE WAS THERE.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BEEP

Announcement

Hoshiko Scans

Hello I hope you guys are enjoying the series so far. I will post download links on our website on Saturdays. The chapters will not be available on Batoto until Sunday or later, so make sure to follow us if you want to read them right away!

Due to school, Yona will be on a semi-hiatus for the rest of the year. As such, if anyone would like to help with typesetting (even just a few pages a chapter), please contact me. Otherwise, releases may slow down.

-Hoshiko

Hoshikoscans@gmail.com

Hoshikoscans@tumblr.com